

eff. May 24, 1950, 15 F.R. 3174, 64 Stat. 1262, set out in the Appendix to Title 5, Government Organization and Employees.

"Bureau of Land Management" substituted in text for "General Land Office" on authority of Reorg. Plan No. 3 of 1946, set out in the Appendix to Title 5.

#### § 344. Cancellation of allotment of unsuitable land

If any Indian of a tribe whose surplus lands have been ceded or opened to disposal has received an allotment embracing lands unsuitable for allotment purposes, such allotment may be canceled and other unappropriated, unoccupied, and unreserved land of equal area, within the ceded portions of the reservation upon which such Indian belongs, allotted to him upon the same terms and with the same restrictions as the original allotment, and lands described in any such canceled allotment shall be disposed of as other ceded lands of such reservation. This provision shall not apply to the lands formerly comprising Indian Territory. The Secretary of the Interior is authorized to prescribe rules and regulations to carry this law into effect.

(Mar. 3, 1909, ch. 263, 35 Stat. 784.)

##### CROSS REFERENCES

Provisions of sections 331 to 334, 339, 341, 342, 348, 349, 354, and 381 not to extend to any Indians in the former Indian Territory, see section 349 of this title.

#### § 344a. Repealed. Act Nov. 24, 1942, ch. 640, § 4, 56 Stat. 1022

Section, act June 25, 1910, ch. 431, § 12, 36 Stat. 858, authorized Secretary of the Interior to investigate the allotment in the name of a deceased Indian and to recommend to Congress the cancellation of such Indian's patent if he died without heirs.

#### § 345. Actions for allotments

All persons who are in whole or in part of Indian blood or descent who are entitled to an allotment of land under any law of Congress, or who claim to be so entitled to land under any allotment Act or under any grant made by Congress, or who claim to have been unlawfully denied or excluded from any allotment or any parcel of land to which they claim to be lawfully entitled by virtue of any Act of Congress, may commence and prosecute or defend any action, suit, or proceeding in relation to their right thereto in the proper district court of the United States; and said district courts are given jurisdiction to try and determine any action, suit, or proceeding arising within their respective jurisdictions involving the right of any person, in whole or in part of Indian blood or descent, to any allotment of land under any law or treaty (and in said suit the parties thereto shall be the claimant as plaintiff and the United States as party defendant); and the judgment or decree of any such court in favor of any claimant to an allotment of land shall have the same effect, when properly certified to the Secretary of the Interior, as if such allotment had been allowed and approved by him, but this provision shall not apply to any lands now held by either of the Five Civilized Tribes, nor to any of the lands within the Quapaw Indian Agency: *Provided*, That the right of appeal shall be allowed to either party as in other cases.

(Aug. 15, 1894, ch. 290, § 1, 28 Stat. 305; Feb. 6, 1901, ch. 217, § 1, 31 Stat. 760; Mar. 3, 1911, ch. 231, § 291, 36 Stat. 1167.)

##### REPEAL OF SECTION AS TO OSAGE INDIANS

*Act June 28, 1906, ch. 3572, § 1, 34 Stat. 540, provided in part that: "the provisions of the Act of Congress of August fifteenth, eighteen hundred and ninety-four, Twenty-eighth Statutes at Large, page three hundred and five [this section], granting persons of Indian blood who have been denied allotments the right to appeal to the courts, are hereby repealed as far as the same relate to the Osage Indians; and the tribal lands and tribal funds of said tribe shall be equally divided among the members of said tribe as hereinafter provided".*

##### CODIFICATION

Act Mar. 3, 1911, conferred the powers and duties of the former circuit courts upon the district courts.

##### CROSS REFERENCES

Jurisdiction of courts, see section 1353 of Title 28, Judiciary and Judicial Procedure.

##### SECTION REFERRED TO IN OTHER SECTIONS

This section is referred to in section 346 of this title.

#### § 346. Proceedings in actions for allotments

The plaintiff shall cause a copy of his petition filed under section 345 of this title, to be served upon the United States attorney in the district wherein suit is brought, and shall mail a copy of same, by registered letter, to the Attorney General of the United States, and shall thereupon cause to be filed with the clerk of the court wherein suit is instituted an affidavit of such service and the mailing of such letter. It shall be the duty of the United States attorney upon whom service of petition is made as aforesaid to appear and defend the interests of the Government in the suit, and within sixty days after the service of petition upon him, unless the time should be extended by order of the court made in the case to file a plea, answer, or demurrer on the part of the Government, and to file a notice of any counterclaim, set-off, claim for damages, or other demand or defense whatsoever of the Government in the premises: *Provided*, That should the United States attorney neglect or refuse to file the plea, answer, demurrer, or defense, as required, the plaintiff may proceed with the case under such rules as the court may adopt in the premises; but the plaintiff shall not have judgment or decree for his claim, or any part thereof, unless he shall establish the same by proof satisfactory to the court.

(Feb. 6, 1901, ch. 217, § 2, 31 Stat. 760; June 25, 1948, ch. 646, § 1, 62 Stat. 909.)

##### CHANGE OF NAME

"United States attorney" substituted in text for "district attorney of the United States" on authority of act June 25, 1948. See section 541 of Title 28, Judiciary and Judicial Procedure.

##### FEDERAL RULES OF CIVIL PROCEDURE

Pleas and demurrers abolished, see rule 7, Title 28, Appendix, Judiciary and Judicial Procedure.